Smuggling of contraband

2579. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

WiU the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of major contrabands seized during 1990 to 1998;

(b) pe:song prosecuted under COFEPOSA; and

(c) steps taken to check smuggl- ling of contrabands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY); (a) and (b). Details of major contrabands seized under the Customs Act 1962 during 1990 to 1993 are given below:

Details of contrabands	1990 (Value in Rs. lakhs)	1991 (Value in Rs. lakhs)	1992 (Value in Rs. lakhs)	1993 (upto July, 93) (Value in Rs. lakhs)
Gold	19235	19302	12645	2300
Silver	14956	13320	13125	2300
Electronic goods	2945	5625	2572	2220
Foreign Currency	339	1324	1352	921
Dangerous drugs	2513	2189	2099	500
Synthetic fabric	528	277	310	91
Vehicles/Vessels	16989	17888	5421	347

Namber of a under COFE'OS \ Act, 1974 are as follows :

Year	No. of persons detained
1990	749
1991	751
1992	428
1993 (upto June, 1993)	132

(c) Anti-smuggling agencies are alert against smuggling activities Customs formations have been equipped with vessels, vehicles, fire arms etc. and the requirements are constantly reviewed. Equipments such as baggage X-ray machines, metal detectors and night vision binoculars are being increasingly utilised. Close co-ordination is being maintained among all the agencies concerned in the detecnon and prevention of smuggling.

liberalisation of trade

. 2580; SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI IQBAL SINGH;

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Finance Minister has communtcpted to the World Bank that Government will further libera; Use Trade and Investment;

(b) if so_ whether the reform pro cesp will be extended to other important sectors of our economy such as Agriculture, Power, etc., and

(n) if so, what are the details of reforms that will be mad"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE MINISTRY OF PARL1A-MENTRY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAK AHMED); (a) and (b) : Yes Sir. The process of economic reforms initiated by the Government in 1991, is a continous one aimed at modernising our economy and putting it on the path of sustained growth. The reforms will cover all critical areas of the economy including trade, investment, financial system tax structure, agriculture and infrastructure especially power.

(c). In the agriculture sector, the broad strategy of the Government for reform is to increase investment, strengthen technology dissemination and improve the performance and reach of irrigation fecilities. At the same time, the agricultural credit, system will be revitalised to enable increase in capital formation and productivity. In the power sector, the thrust of the reform strategy is to improve the efficiency of the State Electricity Boards, reduce transmission and distribution losses and mobilise resources including private sector participation, to meet the power generation target of Eighth Plan.

Pension scheme for Baak Employees

2581. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI; Will the Minister *of* FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of pension Scheme for bank employees as on the 30th June, 1993;

(b) whether any negotiations have taken place between Government Management and Union Association of Pink Employee on pension issue;

(c) what criteria have been fixed for implementation of Pension sheme for Banking Sector;

(d) what is the number of employees entitled for pension and family pension scheme;

(e) what would be the exoendi-ture per annum; and

(f) what is the number of retired bank employees who are eligible for pension in each State as on 31st May, 1993;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not. what are the reasons therefor*

THE MINISTER OF STATE u\ THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED), (a) Bank Employees are generally entitled to Contributory Provident Fund and Gratuity as re tirement benefits. However, due to historical reasons the pension is also available to eligible employees in State Bank of India, Allahabad Bank and State Bank of Hyderabad.

(b) to (h) Service conditions of the award staff (clerical and subordinate caders) in the public sector hanks are governed by industrial awards and bipartite settlements signed from time to time, The bipartite settlements" are" signed' by the Indian Banks' Association (on behalf of banks' managements) and the re-presentatives of she majority employees associations. The pension as a second retiral benefits in lieu of CPF as offered by the IBA to the bank mployees unions is broadly on the lines as it is available to government employees and will be compulsory for the employees joining the banks after the Scheme if accepted, becomes effective. The existing employees '.nay however, have the option either to avail of pensionary benefits or continue to avail the exist ing benefits, vi Contributory Pro-vider!! Fund and Gratuity.

The pension scheme will be in lieu of CPF which is at present 10 per cent of the basic pay of the employees The banks contribution rewards CPF and interest thereon, standing in the credit of the emp loyeee Opting for pension will from the corpus of the pension Fund. As